

JORDAN TIMES

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Syria to brief Kuwait on Assad-Carter talks

KUWAIT, May 11 (R). — A Syrian delegation is expected in Kuwait shortly to brief Kuwaiti officials on the results of the talks on Monday between Presidents Carter and Hafez Assad of Syria. It was stated here today. Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Acting Foreign Minister Abdul Aziz Hussein, speaking to reporters after a cabinet meeting, also said that statements made by President Carter after the talks showed there was a measure of optimism on both sides.

Brezhnev to visit France

PARIS, May 11 (AFP). — Soviet Communist Party chief Leonid Brezhnev will make an official visit to France towards the end of June. French government spokesman Jean-Philippe Lecat announced here today. Mr. Lecat said the exact date of Mr. Brezhnev's visit -- his fourth to France since 1971 -- would be announced later. A well informed source said the Soviet leader was expected to come here around June 20. Mr. Lecat said President Valery Giscard d'Estaing today briefed the French cabinet on his meeting in London on Monday with American President Jimmy Carter and placed it in the context of his forthcoming talks with Mr. Brezhnev.

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NATO adopts defence of human rights issue

LONDON, May 11 (AFP). — NATO today for the first time took up an official position in defence of human rights.

The stance was spelled out in a communique at the close of a meeting here of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation's foreign ministers.

The Western allies, the communique said, "recognise as wholly legitimate the aspirations of people throughout the world to human rights and fundamental freedoms."

The NATO statement comes a little less than two years after the signing of the Helsinki agreement on cooperation and security in Europe, which takes in the question of human rights, and exactly one month before a conference in Belgrade to study application of the agreement.

Libyan cadet seeks asylum in Egypt

CAIRO, May 11 (R). — A Libyan air force cadet has sought political asylum after flying a small, single-engine plane from Tobruk in the Libyan Jamahiriya (formerly Libya) to Egypt, the Egyptian official Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported today.

The agency quoted an Egyptian military spokesman as saying the Egyptian armed forces welcomed the cadet, named as Rahmouma Said Omar Al Asfar, "joining the ranks of the Egyptian air force as a brother."

A spokesman at the Libyan diplomatic mission here said he had no information on the MENA report.

Relations between Egypt and Libya, once partners in a merger plan, have been deteriorating steadily because of acute political differences. Egypt has accused the Libyan Jamahiriya of sending saboteurs to Egypt, but Tripoli has repeatedly denied this.

Libyan Prime Minister Abdul Salam Jalloud accused Egypt at a news conference in Belgrade last Saturday of concentrating troops on the Libyan border and trying to use Egyptian workers in his country for what he termed terrorist activities.

Rebel troops resist Zairese around Kasaji

KINSHASA, May 11 (AFP). — Katangese rebels are resisting Zairese and Moroccan forces around Kasaji, southwest Shaba province, and have allowed the advance of government troops by mining railway lines and bush trails, according to Western observers here.

An official communique last night described the situation as having stabilised in favour of the Zaire-Moroccan forces who are progressing on various fronts.

The government forces are pushing westwards towards Kasaji from Mutshatscha which they captured from the rebels earlier this month.

The Katangans who are claimed to have invaded from Angola in March overran several towns in the province and were posing a threat to Kolwezi, the country's corner mine-camp, before they were driven back.

Yesterday's communique stressed the introduction of air support for government troops, said President Mobutu Sese Seko was personally directing operations from Kolwezi.



His Majesty King Hussein holds Princess Abeer, his three-year-old daughter, as he chats with tour guide Honey Rex, who showed him around Disney World in Orlando, Florida Saturday.

Assad satisfied U.S. now favours resumption of Geneva conference

BEIRUT, May 11 (AFP). — President Hafez Assad of Syria came away from talks with President Jimmy Carter this week satisfied on at least one point -- the Americans now favour a resumption of the Geneva Mideast peace conference.

Mr. Carter, following the Soviet leadership, also endorsed Syria's policies in Lebanon. Syrian forces guaranteeing the ceasefire which ended the civil war are likely to remain for at least six months more.

President Assad was able to confirm for himself the reported impression of the Soviet leaders, that the Americans are now showing a more flexible approach to the Palestinian problem.

He said Mr. Assad had acknowledged that Middle East peace was a necessity and had to be negotiated.

"This is an important change if one considers that until recently Syria was considered to be the most intransigent," Mr. Brzezinski said.

and President Assad "genuinely exploratory."

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Prince Fahd tells Western newsmen: PLO could recognise Israel as part of overall agreement

WASHINGTON, May 11 (AFP). — The Palestine Liberation Organisation could eventually recognise Israel within the framework of an overall Middle East peace agreement, Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz has told American newsmen.

His statements to Western newsmen made in Jeddah yesterday were today widely reported here. Crown Prince Fahd is due to visit the United States on May 24 for talks with President Jimmy Carter and last week held discussions with PLO leader Yasser Arafat in readiness for his Washington meeting.

The New York Times account of the Jeddah statements quoted Prince Fahd as saying: "I believe that the leaders of the Palestinian people will be willing to accept any peaceful solution to the problem if that peaceful solution includes the establishment of a Palestinian state on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip."

The Washington Post report added that Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Faisal, who also met American newsmen yesterday had said it was "very obvious" that the PLO would eventually recognise Israel.

Observers here held that the reports suggested Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia had finally managed to convince the PLO to agree to this concession in return for the creation of a Palestinian "homeland".

Meanwhile, Crown Prince Fahd, considered as Saudi Arabia's "strongman", told newsmen his country did not intend to use oil as a weapon in Middle East negotiations unless this year

ended without progress being made.

"We don't deal with the U.S. by exerting pressure," Prince Fahd said. However he added: "The use of oil prices as a weapon cannot be excluded".

Prince Fahd has previously said that for Saudi Arabia "the oil is at the service of the Arab cause." He recently recalled that when his country insisted on moderation regarding oil prices for 1977 it had taken into consideration the interests of the international community but had also wanted to "create a climate favourable to a just peace in Palestine."

(PLO leader Yasser Arafat held discussions with the Saudi leaders in Riyadh on May 3 to brief the Crown Prince on the Palestinian position on the Middle East. The PLO will be having no direct talks with President Carter, who has been holding a series of meetings with Middle East leaders prior to a probably resumption of the Geneva conference expected to be staged before the end of the year.)

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Abu Odeh notes significant change in U.S. Mideast position

AMMAN (JNA). — Minister of Information Adnan Abu Odeh said Wednesday that there had been a significant development in the position of the United States on the Middle East problem.

In an interview here with the Middle East News Agency (MENA) Mr. Abu Odeh said that the results of the recent round of talks between President Anwar Sadat, His Majesty King Hussein, President Hafez Assad and President Carter, indicated that the United States was ready to discharge its responsibilities as a superpower and member of the United Nations Security Council.

The United States had given the impression that it was serious in wanting to bring about a peace settlement in the area in the light of its analysis of the possible repercussions of continued Israeli occupation of Arab territory on the future of the region and the interests of all the parties concerned, Mr. Abu Odeh said.

The United States had also given the impression that it had become convinced that the Palestinian people had to be a party to any peace negotiations and that it now accepted the right of the Palestinian people to a homeland in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. It also seemed prepared to accept the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, he added.

The talks had centred on identifying realistic factors on which a just peace settlement could be built in the Middle East, Mr. Abu Odeh said.

This will lead to the formulation of a broad outline of a settlement which the United States would present to the parties to the conflict as a preliminary step. Details of execution could then be worked out in accordance with that outline, he added. On future Arab action, Mr. Abu Odeh said as long as the Arabs are agreed on a number of principles, the coming stage should witness coordination among them to reach clearly defined positions on the various questions pertinent to the peace plan.

Concluding the interview, Mr. Abu Odeh said that Jordan would soon be making contacts with Egypt, Syria and other pertinent Arab parties on this subject.

He said the talks between King Hussein and President Carter had been quite successful and very promising.

Sudan urges world community to help solve Eritrean problem

KHARTOUM, May 11 (AFP). — Sudan today called for internationalisation of the Eritrean problem to halt what it termed a campaign of extermination of the people of the northern Eritrean province by Addis Ababa's military regime.

In a speech to the People's National Assembly, Sudanese Foreign Minister Mansour Khalid urged the world community to work to stop "extermination campaigns" in Eritrea where secessionist groups are fighting for the province's independence.

Dr. Khaled said that cases similar to that of Eritrea had already been discussed in international forums, and asked why Eritrea could not also be brought up.

The Sudanese foreign minister also said that consultations were underway to fix a date for holding a summit meeting of Red Sea heads of state to discuss security in the area.

Dr. Khaled's call for international moves over Eritrea came amid reports that Ethiopia's revolutionary regime is recruiting a civilian army to move into Eritrea.

The helicopter hit the ground and careered about two kilometers before exploding. Gen. Gur told a press conference that the cause of the accident was not yet known but he ruled out sabotage or any other "terrorist" act.

Helicopter crash kills 54 Israeli paratroopers

TEL AVIV, May 11 (AFP). — An Israeli military CH53 helicopter crashed near Jericho last night killing 54 paratroopers and crew, Israeli armed forces chief of Staff Mordechai Gur announced today.

The helicopter hit the ground and careered about two kilometers before exploding. Gen. Gur told a press conference that the cause of the accident was not yet known but he ruled out sabotage or any other "terrorist" act.

The accident occurred last night during a combined military exercise in the Jericho area, 8 kilometers west of the Jordan River. Helicopters, jet

fighters, tanks and artillery were involved.

The helicopter was flying low -- at an altitude of a few hundred meters -- and was in constant radio contact with its base until the crash.

Scores of Israeli military men, who were still at the base, witnessed the crash and rushed to the scene ten minutes after the explosion.

Carter reports on Europe tour to Congress today

WASHINGTON, May 11 (R). — President Carter was back at work in the White House today, preparing to report to congressional leaders and the American people on moves taken on the world economy, defence and the Middle East during his European trip.

He will hold a televised press conference tomorrow -- specially timed not to clash with the broadcast of one of the interviews with ex-President Nixon.

"You just don't put politics up against entertainment," press spokesman Jody Powell commented.

Before the press conference, Mr. Carter plans to brief about 70 members of Congress on his five-days of summit diplomacy, which included the seven-day flight to Washington yesterday. President Carter's national security adviser, Mr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, said the economic summit had been "the beginning of restoration of confidence in the West."

"What I found striking about the summit was the contagion of confidence which is absolutely essential to the vitality of a democratic society, and which I think has to be associated with the United States and with Mr. Carter," he said.

He said President Carter's meeting with the heads of government of Japan, West Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada marked the first time in 15 years that the United States had been seen as possessing "a great deal of political and moral authority."

"This was really pervasive," Mr. Brzezinski said.

But he said West Germany's plans to sell nuclear processing equipment to Brazil remained a cause of concern following a cause of concern following the London meeting. "We still don't like it," he told reporters.

Mr. Brzezinski termed the meeting between Mr. Carter

Demonstrations erupt again in Karachi

KARACHI, May 11 (R). — Anti-government demonstrators today blocked roads and threw stones at private vehicles here during a one-day strike called by opposition who demand that Mr. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto resign as Pakistan's prime minister.

Buses, taxis or other public transport were off the streets and most offices and shops were closed.

But in a move to pre-empt the strike, martial law authorities imposed a daytime curfew which left the streets virtually deserted.

Troops began removing the road blocks when people were back indoors.

The nine-party opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) -- whose leaders are in jail -- has accused the prime minister of rigging general elections last March to stay in power.

Newspapers reported today that police in the big industrial city of Lyallpur had arrested five members of a gang and seized crude incendiary and anti-personnel bombs.

The reports said the gang had admitted responsibility for several recent bomb blasts in Lyallpur.

The Pakistan Times said police had confiscated papers linking some of the gang with the Jama'at Islami Party which is part of the PNA coalition.

After meeting with Allon Vance: U.S. would ensure Israel has adequate defences

LONDON, May 11 (R). — U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance said today the Carter administration continued to have a special relationship with Israel and would make sure that it has adequate defences.

He was speaking to reporters after briefing Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon on the latest U.S. talks with Arab leaders aimed at reaching a Middle East peace settlement.

The latest of these talks was between President Carter and Syrian President Hafez Assad in Geneva last Monday.

With Mr. Allon standing beside him, Mr. Vance discounted newspaper reports that the U.S. might impose a settlement.

"We have made it very clear from the outset that this is not intended," Mr. Vance added.

He said that both he and President Carter believed that if there was to be a just and lasting peace this must be determined by the parties concerned in negotiations amongst themselves.

Commenting on suggestions that a new United States policy for export of armaments might be to the disadvantage of Israel, Mr. Vance said: "We have made it very clear that we have a special relationship. We are committed to the security of Israel."

Asked to elaborate on what he meant by a special relationship, Mr. Vance said: "We were at the outset of Israel's birth one of those who helped to bring it into being.

"We have been very close to Israel. We share the same values and we share the same hopes and aspirations."

Mr. Allon was asked whether Israel was as satisfied by the new administration's attitude towards Israel as it was with U.S. policies under President Ford.

Mr. Allon referred to what Mr. Vance had said about the special relationship and added: "I think that is a very positive definition and we are very satisfied with it."

Mr. Vance said in reply to further questions that for the moment no specific proposals for a Middle East solution had been put by either side.

He said the U.S. was in the process of getting the general views of the parties.

Ceausescu, Sadat to discuss Cairo-Moscow relations

CAIRO, May 11 (R). — President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania arrived here today for talks with President Anwar Sadat, expected to cover, among other topics, efforts to improve relations between Egypt and the Soviet Union, informed sources here said.

Their discussions will also deal with the Middle East including the likely resumption of the Geneva peace conference which met briefly and inconclusively in December 1973, after the Arab-Israeli war.

The two presidents are also expected to discuss boosting Egyptian-Romanian relations.

The Romanian leader was accompanied by his wife, Deputy

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Jordanian artist hits the big time in Lyon

Jordanian painters are doing very well these days. While some of them -- Kayed Amr, Saleh Abu Shindi, Moham... Said and Hafeez Qassis -- recently held an exhibition at the British Council here, another, Ahmad Na'wash, is exhibiting his work in the French city of Lyon. This exhibition is sponsored by the Arab-French Friendship Society.

By Irene Ramadan
Special to the Jordan Times

It was that led Ahmad Na'wash to exhibit in a French gallery? Of all, he is a graduate in lithography at the College des Beaux Arts in Bordeaux. There is the very strange of this artist which never strike the public. One can see his style in some oil paintings and lithographs currently on show at the Gallery from the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

Na'wash seems like the painter of the beyond. Although in his surrealistic visions, he is expressed in a very simple way. In fact, his very schematic drawing tells more than you could expect.

Dr. Fahmi Jadaane, professor of philosophy at the University of Jordan, once said about this artist: "His work expresses all the preoccupations and dramas of the people surrounding him. Yet he intends to communicate primarily his

realism clearly pervades the works of Ahmad Na'wash, as these two examples on display at the lobby of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel show.

introspective man. The emotional content of his work deals with the conflicts, torments and ecstasies of the human soul. The subject he paints or draws is almost constantly approached from an angle dominated by fate. However, Na'wash has not completely lost his humanity and his spontaneous cheerfulness, which appear from time to time in his work.

These natural elans are immediately repulsed by a stringent decision. The painter refuses at any cost to escape reality, which for him is to be constantly aware that misery, defeat and drama are the inseparable companions of the human being.

NOTES ABOUT THE ARTIST: Born in Ain Karim near Jerusalem in 1934; Graduate of the Academie des Beaux Arts in Rome; Graduate of the College des Beaux Arts in Bordeaux, where he studied lithography. He has participated in exhibitions in Rome, Baghdad, Damascus, Beirut, Cyprus, Kuwait and West Germany. He has also held several exhibitions in Amman.



Science meet stresses computers, information

AMMAN (JNA). — The seminar on Jordan's science and technology policy discussed papers on computers and the use of science and technology in development plans, and in particular those related to developing countries.

The first paper, discussed at the Wednesday morning session, studied a suggestion to create two national institutes in the kingdom: one for computers and the other for information. These would provide the various research teams and the public and private sectors with all necessary computer services and information.

His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, speaking at the seminar, called on the conferees to stress the importance of establishing a national body to take care of scientific and technological research in the kingdom.

The seminar will hold its closing session Sunday to review its recommendations and prepare working papers for discussion at a second seminar to be held in November.

Nursing Day celebrated today

AMMAN (JNA). — For the second consecutive year, Jordan will celebrate World Nursing Day Thursday.

Speaking to the Jordan News Agency, acting Minister of Health Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh said that one should cast a searching eye "over this honourable profession in order to improve its standard, increase its number of employees and improve the lot of its workers."

The acting minister of health said there are now three nursing colleges in the Kingdom. One is at the University of Jordan and the others belong to the Health Ministry and the Royal Medical Services. In addition, a fourth school is attached to the Baptist Hospital at Ajloun.

Nursing has been introduced as a separate subject in the Ministry of Education curricula. As an incentive for girls to work in the profession, the nursing certificate has been equated with the B.A., and a 60 per cent technical allowance has been added to the nurse's basic salary, Mr. Al Rawabdeh added.

R.C. COLLEGE BUILDING OPENED
AMMAN (JNA). — A new JD 100,000 building for the Roman Catholic National Patriarchal College was opened at a ceremony here today presided over by the Latin Patriarch in Jerusalem, Jacob Beltrini.

In a speech, the Latin Bishop, N'meh Al Sim'an, thanked all those who helped in the construction of the new building "for the service of the Jordanian society."

The National Patriarchal College, opened in 1898, was the first school established in Amman by the Latin Patriarchate.

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Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian fils for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.K. sterling	569.0	575.0
U.S. dollar	330.0	332.0
German mark	139.9	140.3
French franc	66.8	67.1
Swiss franc	131.0	131.4
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.3	37.5
Saudi riyal	93.4	93.6
Lebanese pound	108.7	109.1
Syrian pound	80.8	81.0
Iraqi dinar	947.0	950.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,148.0	1,152.0
Egyptian pound	460.0	465.0
Libyan dinar	760.0	770.0
UAE dirham	84.4	84.8

NABLUS TEAM TO VISIT ARAB COUNTRIES

AMMAN (JNA). — A delegation from Nablus headed by the town's mayor, Mr. Bassam Al Shak'ah, will soon leave on a tour to Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other Gulf states.

This visit will follow on the heels of similar ones by delegations from Gaza, Hebron, Beit Jala and Qalqilya.

The Arab League has twinned Nablus with the city of Kuwait.

Cabinet allocates JD 120,000 to complete war memorial

AMMAN (JNA). — During its meeting under Premier Mudar Badran Wednesday, the cabinet approved the allocation of JD 120,000 to complete the Monument to the Unknown Soldier. It should be ready by May 25, Independence Day.

The Cabinet also agreed to send the Under-Secretary at the Ministry of Health, Dr. Rizq Al Rashdan, and the Director General of the Ministry's laboratories, Dr. Ragheb Kamal, to

France and Denmark for two weeks to learn about the preparation of anti-T.B. vaccine and to study its economic feasibility, so that it can be prepared in the Serums and Vaccines Institution here.

The Cabinet also decided to send the Regional Officer dealing with the Israeli boycott, Mr. George Bisharat, to Alexandria to represent Jordan at the conference of liaison officers of the Israeli Boycott Office on June 8.

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U.S. oil companies suggest sending Japan Alaskan oil in return for her OPEC oil

WASHINGTON, May 11 (AFP). — The suggestion that the U.S. should send Alaskan oil to Japan in return for some of the oil Japan buys from the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), has now reached Congress.

Executives from Standard Oil of California, Exxon and Sohio have put the case to Congress as the date nears for the first oil to flow through the pipeline from Prudhoe Bay to Valdez Port.

The present plan is for the oil to be taken in ships to the consumer areas. The full rate of flow will be two million barrels a day, which is about one quarter of U.S. imports at present.

The idea of shipping Alaskan oil to Japan stems from a simple fact, the nearest potential customers are obviously on the West Coast of the United States, but they already have enough American oil.

Getting Alaskan oil to the East Coast markets would need either a pipeline from the Pacific Coast to the East Coast pipeline network, or alternatively the use of tankers to go around the south through the Panama Canal.

Two cross-country pipeline projects are mooted. One provides for a pipeline across the Northern states to the Great Lakes. The other is for a pipeline from Long Beach, California, to Midland, Texas, but nothing has been decided and either pipeline would take time to lay.

On the other hand, sending tankers through the Panama Canal would appreciably raise the cost of Alaskan oil. In fact, some government and industry people think this oil would cost more than imported oil.

Hence the suggestion of a "swap" with Japan, which already takes natural gas from Southern Alaska. It so happens that Valdez is nearer to Japan than to the Gulf of Mexico. The oil swap would take place pending the completion of a West-to-East pipeline.

Although President Carter has the legal right to conclude such a deal with Japan, if he considers this to be in the national interest, a decision of this kind could run up against opposition in Congress.

There is a psychological, rather than a political or economic, reason for this. If the U.S. sends oil abroad, even though this does not amount to exporting it in real terms, many Americans may ask whether they are making sacrifices for no purpose.

Mr. Carter was generally expected to reach a decision on the oil swap idea by the end of this year.

Meanwhile, before Dec. 1, he has to agree the route for a gas pipeline taking gas from Prudhoe Bay to the markets. So far there are two projects, both going through Canada.

A Canadian committee of inquiry has just opposed the so-called Arctic route which goes from Prudhoe Bay to the Del-

ta of the Cackenzie River and then up this river.

But it has no objection to the other route, called the "Alcan", which is further west. It should be noted, however, that the Canadian government is not bound to accept its views.

Prudhoe Bay presents Mr. Carter with a third problem. He wants to give the oil companies tax incentives to speed up the exploiting of north coast oil deposits.

But this intention has hit up against growing attack within Congress where the administration is being accused of merely seeking to increase the oil companies' profits.

Britain, Japan announce contract for reprocessing spent nuclear fuel

LONDON, May 11 (AFP). — British Nuclear Fuels today announced that a contract for reprocessing 1,600 tons of spent nuclear fuel from Japan was ready for signing.

The spent fuel comes from power stations and the British firm will separate the uranium (97 per cent of the material) from plutonium (one per cent) and radioactive waste (two or three per cent).

The reprocessed uranium could be used again in power stations, the company said.

The contract with Japan is subject to the approval of the United States, which initially

provided the uranium. Recaptured plutonium and uranium would provide energy equivalent to 35 million tons of coal yearly or about 160 million barrels of oil, the firm said.

The British payments would benefit to the tune of some £600 million a year. Radioactive waste would go back to the countries where the fuel was irradiated.

But while Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouet-Boigny

on a visit to Paris, said he hoped the London Summit proposals would break the deadlock in the dialogue, some delegates at the meeting itself expressed reservations.

One delegation chief complained that there was no real sense of urgency in the London Summit closing declaration. "It is impossible to tell by looking at these words what will come out of our meeting here," he said.

The 27-member dialogue is supposed to reach its decisive stage at a three-day ministerial conference starting here on May 30 and final preparations for that meeting are now under way.

Other Third World officials said they saw no reference in the London statement to their call for a new world economic order or for a fundamental change in the relationship between developed and developing countries.

Eastern Airlines may buy 50 European airbus planes

NEW YORK, May 11 (AFP). — News that Eastern Airlines could buy more than 50 European airbus planes on the next 10 years today led U.S. firms to admit that this would give the plane a big foothold in this country.

Eastern Airlines President Frank Borman said yesterday that his company might take more than 50 in the coming decade, if it was pleased with the four it would rent for six months starting next November.

Mr. Borman said the four planes would be given a tough try-out, operating some 10 hours a day. He thought it was the most advanced subsonic airliner currently being produced.

Reacting to this news, U.S. aircraft industry officials said

that, if Eastern Airlines bought over 50 planes, the cost would be some \$1,250 million. This would enable the airbus to get a firm foothold in the U.S.

A Boeing spokesman said: "We're just going to keep trying. Boeing doesn't have planes that size. We are in constant touch with Eastern regarding sales of our present models and the development of the 7N7 and 777 but, even in this new programme activity, we're speaking of sizes which are different from the airbus A300."

A Lockheed spokesman said: "We don't quarrel with comments that the A300 is a good airplane. We just feel the Lockheed L1011 is better."

The McDonnell Douglas Corporation declined to comment. Recently Western Airlines showed interest in the airbus 'ut finally opted for Boeings.

SITUATION WANTED

College graduate with long experience in Arabic and English translation, government and public relations. Currently employed with American newspaper. Seeking employment in Jordan. For more information call Sager Hattar, tel. 74716.

THE HASHEMITE KINGDOM OF JORDAN JORDAN VALLEY COMMISSION

INVITATION TO TENDERERS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE GRADING, PACKING AND MARKETING CENTRE FOR THE FARMERS' ASSOCIATION

The Jordan Valley Commission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, invites qualified international contractors and first class Jordanian contractors (according to classification of the ministry of public works) to submit tenders for the construction of buildings and other facilities required for the grading, packing and marketing centre for the Farmers Association at Arda Village in the Jordan Valley located about 50 kms. west of Amman.

The works include the design, fabrication, supply and erection of steel structures covering an area of about 19,000 square metres of buildings having a maximum span of 35 metres. The work includes the construction of reinforced concrete buildings covering an area of about 1,800 square metres and other civil and architectural works.

This project will be jointly financed by the government of Jordan and the government of the Netherlands through a grant.

The tender documents will be available for purchase at the offices of the Jordan Valley Commission, Jabal Amman, P.O. Box 2769, from May 9, 1977 until May 23, 1977. The charges for these documents are JD 20 or its equivalent in foreign currency. These charges are non-refundable.

The last date for delivery of tenders shall be 12:00 noon local time on June 25, 1977 at the offices of the Jordan Valley Commission in Jabal Amman, Main Administration Building.

Omar Abdallah Dokhgan
President

China's oil production could reach 100 million tons this year

PEKING, May 11 (AFP). — Oil is China's trump card in the economic challenge the new leaders took up after the purge of Mao Tse-tung's widow Chiang Ching, to reach and surpass the level of the United States.

Foreign specialists in Peking predict that for the first time China's total production of crude this year should approach if not attain the hundred million tons mark. In 1960 national production was only three million tons.

The government will now attempt to raise the average 20 per cent annual increase in output which it has recorded in the past few years.

Production in 1976 was estimated at about 90 million tons. On Monday Chairman Hua Kuo-feng told a national industrial conference here, which began in late April, that China

would accomplish "miracles" in its efforts to pull itself up in the ranks of the world's largest economic powers before the end of the century.

The "magic wand" which he will use to accomplish this prodigious feat appears to be oil.

It is significant that the national industrial conference, the first of its kind since 1949, was initially opened at Tachung in northeastern China, the country's largest oilfield, and that the major theme was to emulate that production unit, held up as a model for all China. In addition, one of the principal speakers was Vice Premier Yu Chiu-ii, also Minister of Petroleum and Chemical Industries.

In his speech last week to the conference, Mr. Yu Chiu-ii said a minimum of 400 industrial or commercial enterprises of various types each year

should copy Tachung's management systems, output percentages and working methods.

He also said that in the sector China should build production units in every way similar -- no doubt in production as well -- to Tachung.

In this way the Chinese economy would have the lifeline which is still in short supply to make it prosper -- foreign exchange -- as well as very big energy reserves.

Peking has affirmed many times since the overthrow of Mao's widow last year that China was willing to acquire all the technology it needed from foreign countries, while at the same time following its own road toward development.

Still, officials bemoaned the lack of the necessary foreign currency. And stepped-up exports would help solve the problem.

Zambia spurs investigation of oil companies illegally supplying Rhodesia with oil

LUSAKA, Zambia, May 11 (AFP). — British lawyers and politicians have strengthened Zambia's intention to sue four Western oil companies for supplying oil to Rhodesia in breach of United Nations sanctions.

Zambia's Minister of Legal Affairs and Attorney-General Maliza Chona said here today when he returned from a nine-day visit to Britain.

He told a press conference at the Lusaka International Airport that intensive investigations would now take place. During his visit to Britain he had "extremely encouraging discussions" with lawyers and politicians who included Foreign Secretary Dr. David Owen.

Mr. Chona said: "The discussions we had strengthened our feeling that we have a good case and that the oil companies have to be stopped immediately from supplying oil to the Smith Regime."

Mr. Chona also had talks with opposition Conservative

Deputy Foreign Affairs Spokesman Peter Tapsell and Edward Duccann, Chairman of the Democratic Parliamentary Caucus.

He said it was clear from the talks that former British Prime Minister Harold Wilson was right when in 1965, he

predicted that the Rhodesia Regime would be brought down in a matter of weeks if oil supplies to it were completely cut off.

"Had the sanctions been effectively applied at that time, Mr. Wilson would have been proved right," Mr. Chona told reporters.

Study says solar heating may be competitive with gas and oil in 3 years

CHICAGO, May 11 (R). — Solar heating may be economically competitive with oil and natural gas within three years, according to a study published here yesterday.

Solar heating is already competitive with electrical heating in 12 out of 13 American cities surveyed, and the cost of the new method is falling, the study said.

Dr. C.E. Bakus, Professor of

Engineering at Arizona State University, said the most expensive items were roof-mounted solar "collectors" that absorb energy from the sun.

But he predicted their present cost of \$20 per square foot installed would be halved by 1980.

The study was reported in a paper presented to a meeting here of the American Petroleum Institute.

Talks break down in attempts to settle Australia's air controllers strike

MELBOURNE, May 11 (AFP). — About 16,000 airlines employees will be laid off today following the breakdown of talks yesterday aimed at settling Australia's crippling air controllers strike.

The six day strike has delayed 1,900 passengers in Australia and stranded several thousand others, many without money, in Asia and the South Pacific.

Australia's domestic airlines have lost about \$4 million and the international airlines, including Australia's overseas

airline Qantas, about \$12 million.

The strike was called in support of a 36 per cent pay raise claim on behalf of 1,000 air traffic controllers.

Arbitration commission talks between the union and airlines broke down yesterday making a settlement of the dispute unlikely before Friday and possibly Monday.

In Hong Kong, where more than 1,500 Australians are stranded, the high commission has started lending money to Australians in desperate need.

Melbourne businessman M. Graeme Le Bransky who has been stranded in Hong Kong for four days, told Australian newsmen who telephoned the Commission: "We are stuck

here without money and we feel like the forgotten people. We are distraught people who have run out of money and have been forced to camp in the airport terminal because they have no money to pay for accommodation."

Mr. Le Bransky said about 500 of the stranded Australians were in "severe financial difficulties."

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

* HONG KONG, May 11 (AFP). — Cuba has been buying toys from Hong Kong in huge numbers, trade figures showed here today. Its purchases in the first two months of this year were 2,367 per cent up on a year earlier, making Cuba the ninth biggest customer. France and Venezuela were among other countries taking substantially more toys. The United States buys about half the Hong Kong industry's exports which last year came to \$474.2 million.

* NEW DELHI, May 11 (AFP). — India and Bangladesh failed to reach agreement on the sharing of the Ganges waters after five days of talks which concluded here today. An Indian spokesman said the talks would be resumed next month in Dacca on a date to be fixed later.

* ALGIERS, May 11 (AFP). — Algeria today announced it was developing a computer and said a laboratory prototype was already operating. National Data Processing Director Mustapha Bouraifa, giving the news through the Agency Algeria Presse Service (APS), also said Algeria and Romania had signed a cooperation agreement in the computer sector.

* TOKYO, May 11 (AFP). — Japan's exports of rolled steel to China will hit an all-time "high" of about 4 million tons this fiscal year, but those to the Soviet Union will drop drastically, industrial sources predicted today. They said that the Chinese National Metals and Minerals Import and Export Corporation had already contracted to import about 2 million tons of steel products from Japanese steelmakers in the first half of fiscal 1977 and about the same amount will be contracted for the latter half.

* NEW DELHI, May 11 (AFP). — The Indian government was yesterday contemplating an immediate and total ban on exports of vegetables, fruits and potatoes, which go mostly to Arab countries. It was said that exports of essential commodities like vegetables, fruits and potatoes "in our anxiety to earn foreign exchange" had pushed up their prices considerably in domestic markets.

Ireland holds to 50-mile fishing limit in spite of EEC demands

DUBLIN, May 11 (AFP). — The Irish Republic was today maintaining its 50-mile fishing limit in spite of a demand from the European Economic Community (EEC) that it should end the limit at midnight Tuesday.

The decision to maintain the limit was taken at a cabinet meeting. The republic introduced it last month basically to curb the activities of large boats from Eastern Europe.

But the move also caused anger among Ireland's partners in the EEC. The issue was expected to be fought out at the European Court in Luxembourg.

U.S. car sales drop, retail sales unchanged

WASHINGTON, May 11 (AFP). — Retail sales in the United States were unchanged in April at \$89.400 million, commerce department figures showed.

The April figure was nevertheless 1 per cent up on a year earlier. During April car sales dropped four per cent, but were 12 per cent up on April last year.

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices declined broadly Wednesday on the New York stock exchange, where the industrial average lost more than nine points on moderate trading.

Worries about a tightening of the credit policy of the Federal Reserve and higher interest rates triggered the decline, analysts said.

Declines outnumbered advances at the close by a wide 872 to 533 margin.

Most groups of shares ended the day on a lower note, such as chemicals, automobiles and computers. Among the most active shares, Eastman Kodak lost 2-1/8 at 58-1/4.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 926.90, a loss of 9.24 points; Transp at 240.02, a loss of 0.29; utilities at 109.92, unchanged. 18,980,000 shares changed hands, of which 3,330,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The stock exchange's five-day rally among industrial shares ended Wednesday as profit-taking developed, but gilts went firmer on hopes of yet another cut in the Bank of England's minimum lending rate this week.

Disappointment over Unilever's figures upset the recent buying enthusiasm for equities, as its shares dipped another 20 pence (four per cent). Other leaders had falls of between two and eight pence, including Imperial Chemical Industries, Glaxo, Courtauld, Dunlop, Bats and Hawker. Some signs of a recovery towards the end soon faded. The Financial Times industrial shares index was down 7.0 at 456.6.

Price of gold closed in London Wednesday at \$147.70/oz.

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Judge allows Concorde to land at New York airport

NEW YORK, May 11 (R). — A U.S. judge today gave the go-ahead for the Angola-French Concorde supersonic airliner to land in New York.

U.S. District Court Judge Milton Pollack ruled that the ban on Concorde by the managers of Kennedy Airport here was irreconcilable with former U.S. Transportation Secretary William Coleman's decision to allow Concorde a trial landing period of 18 months.

Court officials said the judge's ruling means that Concorde

can start landing at Kennedy, the main gateway into the United States, immediately.

But officials of British Airways and Air France, operators of the plane, have said they expect it will take at least a week to make arrangements for Concorde flights.

A spokesman for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the operators of Kennedy Airport, said it was

too early to say what its next step will be, but that the authority may appeal against Judge Pollack's decision.

The port authority has, in effect, been told by the judge that it does not have the right to decide which planes can land at the airport.

A spokesman for British Airways told Reuters he was delighted by the decision, but he wanted to study it in depth.

Vatican against joint Eucharist with Anglicans

VATICAN CITY, May 11 (R). — A high-ranking Vatican Church Unity official yesterday rejected the archbishop of Canterbury's proposal that the Catholic and Anglican churches sanctify joint Communion services.

The Archbishop, Dr. Donald Coggan, made the suggestion during his visit to Rome two weeks ago.

Writing in the Vatican daily, L'Osservatore Romano, Monsignor Pierre Duprey, Under-Secretary for Christian Unity, said the two churches were aiming at full communion of faith and sacramental life.

"There cannot be one without the other," he said.

"If agreement is not re-established on the Apostles' teaching, on the faith which we profess and must declare, and on the necessary structures for the Communion service, we believe that joint participation in the Eucharist cannot be achieved.

"Otherwise we would be acting as if we had already reached our goal of full agreement on the faith, and in the search for unity to act as if

can only lead up a blind alley" he said.

Dr. Coggan had pointed out that in many parts of the world Catholics are receiving the sacrament from the hands of Anglican priests and vice versa and said he thought the time had come to sanction the practice.

Djibouti's parliament to elect new cabinet

DJIBOUTI, May 11 (AFP). — Djibouti's Prime Minister Abdallah Kamil and his government resigned today to make

way for a new administration which will be elected by the territory's chamber of deputies next Friday, official sources said.

The 65-member assembly was elected on Sunday following an overwhelming vote for independence in a referendum, and is to meet for the first time on Friday.

In an interview with AFP today, Mr. Kamil described his government's role as "essentially political."

"In this period of uncertainty," the outgoing premier said, "few administrative reforms

have been undertaken, neither have any major economic or social projects."

Mr. Kamil expressed satisfaction that Djibouti's Afar population had accepted the importance of national unity during his leadership.

The single list of candidates for what will become the national assembly after next month's formal proclamation of independence was drawn up by Djibouti's biggest political grouping, the Popular Rally for Independence (RPI).

It reflects the territory's ethnic imbalance comprising 30 members from the Afar tribe, 33 from the Somali-related Issas, Issaks and Gadabursis, plus two Arab members.

The RPI is led by Mr. Hassan Gouled, President of the African People's Independence League (LPAI), one of four mainly Issa factions in the alliance, who is tipped to become the new state's first president.

The RPI has 21 LPAI members, five from the Somali-backed Somali Coast Liberation Front (FLCS), 13 members of the pre-independence parliamentary majority and 15 opposition members.

The other 11 members are from the Afar parties, the National Independence Union (UNI) and the Marxist-Leninist People's Liberation Movement (MPL), but all stood as independents in Sunday's poll, the Afar parties having been urged by former Prime Minister Ali Aref Bourhan (an Afar) to return blank votes.

In a press conference on Monday, UNI and the MPL challenged the new chamber's re-

U.S. stops more sales of Israeli Kfir jets, says Jerusalem Post

TEL AVIV, May 11 (AFP). — The United States has told Israel it will not allow the sales of American-engined Israeli Kfir jet fighters to Taiwan and the Philippines, the Jerusalem Post reported today.

According to the newspaper's Washington correspondent the U.S. administration would not oppose the sale of the plane to Singapore, but the Singapore government was losing interest in it.

The United States has to approve all Kfir sales because it supplies the plane's engine.

The article quoted Washington sources as saying U.S. approval for the export of Kfirs to Austria was given "only after the Austrians made it clear they intended to drop the idea."

The sources noted that U.S. Embassy officials in Vienna tried to persuade the Austrian government "to choose the American-built F-5 fighter instead of the Kfir."

The Jerusalem Post quoted the assessment of the American magazine Armed Forces Journal that the Americans' decision to block the delivery of Kfirs to Ecuador earlier this year killed a potential \$3,000 million market for the plane.

The Armed Forces Journal, it said, reported that at least three other South American countries told Israel they were no longer interested in the Kfir and Australia dropped its option to buy 24 of them.

The journal "blamed the American reluctance to allow the Kfir sale to go ahead on a combination of Israeli arrogance and U.S. patronisation," according to the Jerusalem Post.

Kidnapped El Salvador minister found dead

SAN SALVADOR, May 11 (R). — Kidnapped Foreign Minister Mauricio Borbone Pohl of El Salvador was found dead early today with several shots in his head, it was officially announced here.

His body was found by police in the town of Santa Tecla, 12 kms. from here.

Senator Borbone, 38, had been abducted on April 19 by the so-called "Popular Forces of Liberation (FPL)" who demanded that 37 political prisoners be freed in return for his freedom.

The government said it would not negotiate.

Ten days after his capture his family received a letter from him saying he was alive and well.

He asked them to try to persuade the government to accept the ransom deal and said the guerrillas had promised him that if this was done "they will fulfil their part of the bargain."

Political violence in this Central American country of 4.5 million people erupted after the ruling party was officially

declared the victor in a presidential election in February 1972.

On May 1 eight leftists were killed in clashes with police and national guardsmen during a May Day demonstration.

Senator Borbone had been Foreign Minister since 1972 when Col. Arturo Molina was first elected president.

The president had responded

to the kidnappers by threatening if the government negotiated with the ministers' ductors, the guerrillas would obtain the release of a criminal.

"Nobody in this country would be safe in his work daily life," the president

Mauritania sure French hostages are in Algeria

NOUAKCHOTT, May 11 (AFP). — French hostages seized by guerrillas of the Western Saharan Polisario front during a raid on Zouerate, in northern Mauritania, are certainly in Algeria, Mauritanian President Moktar Ould Daddah told a press conference here.

The Polisario guerrillas killed a French couple and a Mauritanian and abducted four Mauritians and six French people during the May 1 attack on the iron-mining centre of Zouerate.

Mr. Ould Daddah told the press conference yesterday "we are sure that they (the French hostages) are in Algeria. Our planes followed traces of what remained of the mercenary squad all the way to Algeria."

Algeria supports the Polisario front in its efforts to gain self-determination for the Western Sahara in the face of a direct hand-over of the phosphate-rich territory to a joint Moroccan-Mauritanian administration.

Since the raid, Mauritania has strengthened its military capability, Mr. Ould Daddah said.

He ruled out any recurrence of a similar surprise raid because of the new vigilance of his country's armed forces.

He said that they were capable of guaranteeing the safety of Zouerate's population.

Contrary to some reports there was no proof that Algerian army officers had led a mercenary raid, Mr. Ould Daddah said.

"We only have assumptions," he added.

Meanwhile, Algeria announced yesterday that it is to support direct talks between France and the Polisario front over the six missing people if it can be confirmed that the Polisario Saharans actually hold the hostages.

The Algerian announcement came in a communique following yesterday's meeting of the cabinet.

French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud last week requested that Algeria should do all it could to obtain the release of the six French people.

Young's visit to S. Africa still in doubt

JOHANNESBURG, May 11 (R). — The "will-be-won't-be?" question still plagues Mr. Andrew Young's proposed visit to South Africa.

America's outspoken black U.N. ambassador, who arrived in Abidjan yesterday to begin an African tour, said that as far as he was concerned he was coming to white-ruled South Africa as he had planned.

But the South African government may still be engaged in discussions with Washington over the visit, which nettled authorities here because it was not originally proposed through normal diplomatic channels.

The government here is anxious that a visit by Mr. Young -- who has angered many white South Africans by referring to their administration as illegitimate and unrepresentative -- does not cast a shadow over important talks beginning in Vienna on May 19 between Prime Minister John Vorster and U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale.

Mr. Young had originally planned to address students and businessmen here on May 20. Diplomatic sources here said he may now be asked to delay his trip until after the Vienna talks.

Her ex-husband says Ulrike Meinhof's suicide was result of "psychological terror" by her co-defendants

FRANFURT, May 11 (AFP). — West German urban guerrilla Ulrike Meinhof was pushed to commit suicide in her cell a year ago after a campaign of "psychological terror" waged by three other leaders of the Baader-Meinhof group, her ex-husband alleged here yesterday.

In a commentary on the last days of Miss Ulrike Meinhof as she waited for trial in her cell in the Stuttgart Stammheim Prison, journalist Klaus Rainer Roehl, her ex-husband, denied that there was any truth in the suggestion that Miss Ulrike Meinhof was killed by someone else.

This allegation of murder had been made by her co-defendants -- Baader-Meinhof leaders Miss

Gudrun Ensslin, Mr. Andreas Baader and Mr. Jan-Carl Raspe -- and by their lawyers.

But in the article published in the Liberal-left Frankfurter Rundschau newspaper Mr. Roehl said the allegations were without proof.

Having analysed his ex-wife's notes and documents found in her cell, Mr. Roehl said they tended to demonstrate that Miss Meinhof had become morally isolated from her companions.

In particular her relations with Miss Ensslin, responsible among the group for collating and correcting the reports on the trial which Miss Meinhof passed to her co-defendants, were characterised by "mistrust and fear", Mr. Roehl said.

The Frankfurter Rundschau published extracts from Miss Meinhof's notes and documents which, it was said, she had wanted to be edited by Mr. Jan-Carl Raspe instead of Miss Ensslin.

In the documents Miss Meinhof had apparently written in several places "I no longer believe that..."

In another document Miss Meinhof referred to Miss Ensslin in a note: "How can I be myself if I am forced to co-exist with the foul image she has of me." In the margin Miss Ensslin had written her own comment, accusing Miss Meinhof of psychological disorders and adding: "Paranoia. Pig."

Mr. Roehl pointed to what he saw as another sign that his ex-wife had moved away from the stand taken by the other three defendants. This was the fact that in May of last year -- just four days be-

fore her death -- when the others claimed responsibility for an attack against the United States army headquarters in Frankfurt in 1972 in which four people died, Miss Meinhof did not associate herself with them.

Mr. Roehl concluded, however, that his ex-wife "seemingly did not want or was no longer able to cut herself away from the other terrorists."

He deplored the "legend" that was being built up around her death and said he feared that further "executions", like the April 7 killing of State Prosecutor Siegfried Buback and two other officials, might be carried out in her name by the group now calling itself the "Meinhof Commando".

Miss Ensslin, Mr. Andreas Baader and Mr. Jan-Carl Raspe were sentenced to perpetual imprisonment on April 28. They are appealing against the court's decision.

Meetings are still being held, but Filipino Moslem rebellion may flare up again

By Colin Bickler

MANILA, May 11 (R). — Whether fighting in the southern Philippines is renewed perhaps even more fiercely than before, could depend on meetings being held this week and next, thousands of miles away in the Middle East.

Speculation increased last weekend with the disclosure that the chief ceasefire representative of the Moslem rebel Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), Dr. Thani Manjoura, had left for Saudi Arabia to meet with his chairman in exile, Dr. Nur Misuari.

He said the five-month-old ceasefire would be maintained while he was away and he expected to be back within a week. But there was no doubt that, while in Saudi Arabia, he would discuss future strategy following the failure of peace talks in Manila to end the long rebellion.

Another key meeting will take place in Tripoli, Libyan Jamahiriyah, next week between the foreign ministers of the 42-member Islamic Nations Conference, whose quadripartite committee was trying to mediate the Manila peace talks when they collapsed at the end of April.

A committee of the Libyan Jamahiriyah, Senegal, Somalia and Saudi Arabia is reporting on the situation to the foreign ministers.

At a press conference when the talks broke up, the committee, headed by conference Secretary General Ahmadou Karim Gave and Libyan Foreign Secretary Ali Abdul Salim Al Tureki, left no doubt about their belief that the Philippines government was

responsible for the collapse and questioned the government's sincerity.

But it left the ceasefire observers in place until the situation was reviewed by the conference.

For its part, the Philippines government left no doubt either about its anger and disappointment -- words used in a "state of the nation" address by President Ferdinand Marcos, who had placed great faith in the Islamic Conference and in Libyan President Muammar Qaddafi to get a peaceful settlement with the Moslem rebels.

The Philippines officials accused the quadripartite committee of acting more like advocates for the MNLF than like a mediator and, while denying accusations that Manila had gone back on earlier agreements, accused the rebels of doing so.

Despite the mutual recriminations and occasional harsh language -- including an implied threat from the quadripartite committee to take the matter to the United Nations -- both sides continued to express desire for further negotiations.

One reason why a settlement is hard to come by is because the issues are more complex than a simple desire of the Moslem minority to have autonomy to the largely Christian Philippines.

The two-to-four million Moslems form a majority in only five of the 13 provinces for which they want autonomy and the fears on both sides. And while religious differences heighten the issues, they are not the sole problem.

The southern provinces are

traditional Moslem homelands and the Christians are historically migrants from the north. Most of them have been there a long time and see themselves as part of the southern scene, having put much into development there. They speak different dialects, mainly imported from the north, but their roots are in the south.

The southern Moslems tend to be economically depressed. Also, they have fought a long, if sporadic, battle against outside influence and domination over several hundred years -- against the Spanish Conquistadores and, for the first 50 years of this century, the American colonialists.

By no means all the Moslems support the rebel Moro National Liberation Front. Since the latest rebellion flared up in 1972 and caused some 50,000 deaths, perhaps more than half the MNLF -- by government count -- have accepted Manila's offer of amnesty and development and returned to the fold.

They add another complicating factor to the negotiations because they want to be assured that if any deal is made the MNLF, their switch of loyalty will be fully recognised. The Christian community wants assurances that autonomy will not mean Moslem domination.

At the heart of the breakdown of the talks is the fact that the Philippines government felt MNLF demands would destroy Philippines territorial integrity and sovereignty.

It claims the MNLF wants its own security force of 15,000 men, wants to dominate any provisional autonomous government and wants it to operate

Oil blow-outs will always happen, says expert

WASHINGTON, May 11 (R). — Oil-rig troubleshooter Paul "Red" Adair said yesterday there was little that could be done to prevent an oil well blowing out of control.

Mr. Adair, just back from Norway where he led a band of highly-paid experts in capping the rogue gusher Ekofisk Bravo in the North Sea, said the owners of the well, Phillips Petroleum, had taken all reasonable precautions and should

not be blamed for what happened.

The well dumped five million barrels of oil before it was brought under control.

Speaking of the risks of his business to the House of Representatives Select Committee on the Outer Continental Shelf, he said most fires and blow-outs were caused by simple human error.

The panel is drafting new laws setting strict safeguards

on drilling off the American coast.

The burlly Texan offered little advice on how to meet the dangers of offshore drilling but did say other countries were generally better prepared than the United States to cope with oil disasters.

He pointed to expensive safety measures adopted by Saudi Arabia and Norway as a special semi-submersible vessel developed by Phillips in use in North Sea emergencies.

Hollywood mourns Joan Crawford

LOS ANGELES, May 11 (R). — Hollywood today mourned the death of actress Joan Crawford, the chorus line dancer who became a glamour queen.

Miss Crawford died of a heart attack in her New York apartment yesterday. She was 69.

"She was one of the true queens of the screen," said Mr. Robert Young, who starred with her in a number of films.

Dancer Fred Astaire, who came to Hollywood to play alongside her in his first film "Dancing Lady" in 1932, said:

"She was a very gracious and lovely woman and a very big star."

Miss Crawford, found dead by her maid, danced her way into Hollywood in silent movies 50 years ago and stayed at the top through 80 films that included "Grand Hotel", "Autumn Leaves" and "Daisy Kenyon".

When she was past the age of romance, she played in horror films and westerns. One of her last great roles was alongside Miss Bette Davis in "Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?"

Three marriages -- the first of them to Mr. Douglas Fairbanks Jr. -- ended in divorce and she outlived her fourth husband, businessman Alfred Steele. She had four adopted children.

She became a top executive at PepsiCo -- the corporation which makes Pepsi Cola -- when her last husband, who was PepsiCo president, died in 1959.

Born Miss Lucille Le Sueur in San Antonio, Texas, she first changed her name to Billie Cassin and then to Joan Crawford -- a name given to her by a Hollywood studio in spite of her initial objections.

She was on her own from an early age, working as a \$15-a-week clerk in a department store, then as a waitress, before exchanging her tray for chorus line tights when she won a Charleston competition.

From the chorus line, she stepped up to Broadway, making her debut in "Innocent Eyes". Signed to a Metro Goldwyn-Mayer contract in 1929, her first film was "Pretty Lady" and in 1928 "Dancing Daughters" lifted her to the stardom from which she never slipped.

She made the transition from silent films to sound pictures without missing a step. "It was no big transition for me," she said. "When talkies came in, I was too young to be frightened."

She worked with the top stars of Hollywood in the 1930s. Mr. Clark Gable was her favourite. "He had magic," she said. "I adored working with Mr. Jimmy Stewart and Mr. Bob Taylor, too."

From her glamorous roles, she shifted to sentimental melodramas. Her role as the mother in "Mildred Pierce" in 1946 won her an academy award. Miss Eve Arden, who starred with her in "Mildred Pierce", said on hearing of her death: "She was an outstandingly beautiful and intelligent actress... Better than people gave her credit for."

Miss Crawford often admitted that being a star was terrifying.

"It's awful sometimes," she once said. "I have to live up to what people expect me to be. 'I'm no queen. I started as a booper in a chorus line and by hard work and good breaks I became, I hope, an actress."

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